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## The Classic, August 1955

Northwestern Junior College and Classical Academy

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## News - Letter

# THE CLASSIC

NORTHWESTERN JUNIOR COLLEGE AND ACADEMY

AUGUST, 1955

### THE EDUCATION OF TEACHERS ... AN INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN

ARTHUR T. ALLEN, M. A.

Coordinator,  
Elementary Education Program

This past spring an alumna of Northwestern College and I engaged in a discussion of her work as a first year teacher in one of the nearby public elementary schools. She recalled from the recent experiences how she had attempted to apply the many aims and objectives of modern education. She said that she not only had to teach the three R's, but also had to convey to children in an anxious age a confidence for living. Our young alumna went on to say that she was glad that she had been "put into the whole teaching picture" while studying at Northwestern. By this she implied that she had developed not only the skills of a good practitioner while studying at "NJC", but also a basic understanding of man and his unique position in the world as a member of God's Kingdom. This is the basic area that the college wants our students to focus upon in their search for confidence in teaching and for the abundant life.

America, too, is attempting to center its thinking in this area of man's place in the world and his relationship to a Divine Being. Currently America is proposing three major ways. These are:

**SECULARISM** - The secularist's answer is man is neither good nor evil. He may do good things or bad things according to what he learns to be worthwhile.

Under this category comes humanistic religious educa-



**IN THE LABORATORY** — A corner in the Curriculum Laboratory designed to assist students-in-training for more effective use of the many teaching aids used in the modern elementary school.



**IN THE CLASSROOM** — An elementary education class in one of the modern classrooms located in the new Science Hall.

tion which goes along with secular education, but does not stop there. To the humanistic religious educator, religious education builds on the base of secular education. It adds a certain "plus" factor. This subtle philosophy is best represented in H. A. Overstreet's **MATURE MIND**, a best seller on the non-fiction list. Overstreet represents this philosophy as Christian teaching. He cites Jesus as the finest example in all history of his "mature man", and the reader has to evaluate carefully to discover that by Jesus, Overstreet does not imply the Jesus of the Gospels who was the Christ, the Son of God and the Savior of the world, but an entirely new Jesus who in essence is his ideal humanist. At the end of his book Overstreet is unable to accept the traditional Protestant viewpoint that man is totally corrupt and in need of the grace of God. He feels that this position is an insult to man's dignity.

**ARISTOTELIANISM** (central element of Roman Catholic philosophy) Man is essentially good. He needs only to be taught ethics. Although in his present state, he is deprived of God's grace, he can nevertheless perform good works and need not feel guilty for sin.

In contrast to the traditional Roman Catholic position, **PROTESTANTISM** asserts that man is totally corrupt. Man is depraved and needs the grace of God.

At Northwestern College a liberal education is fostered (as contrasted to the traditional Catholic curriculum of rigidity)—thereby developing the ability to think and act in the presence of new and unprecedented situations. When the young person at Northwestern encounters a contrary educational philosophy in his classes in education from what has been God revealed, the department urges him to first understand the problem and situation, and then to produce a tentative Christian interpretation and/or a philosophy of education that is as practical and scientific as that which has been produced by the other leading philosophies of our day. For the Roman Catholic student, revelation is circumscribed by the threat of centuries of tradition.

We are accomplishing our aim by urging our students to:

1. Remain in the public schools as witnesses and not to abandon them to non-Christian interests that might care to control them. This would be disastrous both for the nation and for our church.
2. Carefully consider the following basic questions of life:
  - What are my assets and liabilities for leading a good life?
  - What do I want from life?
  - What do I expect to give to life?

"The unexamined life", said Socrates, "is not worth living." This is our first and most important aim as a Christian liberal arts school: to assist our students to examine themselves in the light of knowledge, and divine truth. This great objective is not accomplished by the education department alone but by the joint cooperative efforts of each

department in the college in preparing students for the teaching profession.

The college departments of instruction attempt to convey a minimum body of knowledge necessary to enable the student to feel at home in God's world. This is done, as much as a junior college program will permit, by a study of the natural and physical sciences, a study of the society of which the student is a part, his relation to and understanding of other societies, and his relation to his society and to his family and his neighbors in particular. This study is concurrently integrated with God's revelation as to the nature and destiny of man.

We at the college also desire that our students receive from life:

1. A sense of self-sufficiency. An adequate income to live in health and decency, in respectability and comfort.
2. A confidence for teaching. A feeling that the student can master the teaching endeavor. Just as they are expected to maintain scholastic excellency, so we want them to excel in their life's work: teaching.
3. A desire to establish and maintain a Christian home and family.
4. A capacity to understand and enjoy life in all of its infinite richness and variety. An appreciation for the past and present as seen through a study of the humanities.

The third question which the student is confronted with—"What do I expect to give to life?" is a most important one from the Christian concept of service. "Freely ye have received, freely give." This we hope will be the principle that our students will bring to life and to teaching.

It is our desire that life may bring to our students wisdom and that our students will bring wisdom and integrity to life. How many "bright" people in our world today, but how very few wise! "Wisdom is the principal thing," said the Preacher in Proverbs; "therefore, get wisdom: and with all thy getting, get understanding." If our young people training for the teaching profession could show forth "true understanding and wisdom" to their future pupils, the nation and church would be strengthened immeasurably, and they will have made a real contribution to their profession, to their fellow citizens, and to the Kingdom of God. We do not want our students to produce only better tools and better techniques in the teaching field, but to produce children and youth reflecting the glory of the Master Teacher.

#### IN MEMORIAM

REV. B. D. DYKSTRA  
MR. JACKSON HOSPERS  
MRS. LUCILLE FIKSE BOESKOOL  
MR. JAMES DEN HERDER  
HAROLD SCHOEP  
MRS. S. C. NETTINGA





**OUT IN THE FIELD** — Preparation through practice and participation in the art of teaching is given to every student in the department



**IN CONFERENCE** — Cooperating teacher and college supervisor counsel a student teacher in her work as an assistant to the regular classroom teacher.



**IN TEACHER PLACEMENT** — Superintendent Lorber\* discussing an applicant's credentials with the Director of the Teacher Placement Bureau of Northwestern College.  
\* Orange City Public Schools.

## WEDDING BELLS

- Andrew Miedema - C'51 - Joan Van Leeuwen R. - Hospers, Iowa
- Arlo Van Vugt - A'53 - Harriet Pals R - Arlo in service
- Ella Mae Vander Wilt - C'54 - Donald De Gooyer R. - Sioux Center, Iowa
- Lynn Hinze - Cn'54 - Nancy Maki R - Lynn in service
- Vera Cleveringa - Cn'53 - Norman Pietrich R. - Sheldon, Iowa
- Helena Huisman - C'52 - Almon Brandt R - Almon in service
- Marlene Van Loh - C'54 - Dale Slykhuis R. Ashton, Iowa
- Diane Mattlin - C'54 - John Vande Steeg R - John in service
- Henrietta Vanden Berg - C'53 - Gilbert W. Elbers R - Gilbert in service
- Carol Veencamp - Cn'55 - Norman Bastemeyer - Cn'50 R - Norman in service
- Wilbur Draayer - Cn'54 - Jeanette Eenkhorn R - Sioux Center, Iowa
- Stanley J. Harms - C'52 - Darlene Arneson R - Stan in service
- Kathaleen Van Gelder - A'53 - Gordon Van Wyhe R - Ireton, Iowa
- Ruth Oordt - C'54 - Ronald Strodzas R - Ronald in service
- Mary Jane Van Batavia - C'53 - Roy Rozeboom R - Sioux Center, Iowa
- Harold Ten Haken - Cn'52 - Verla De Jongh R - Harold in service
- Edwin John Meyer - Charlotte Faye De Boer - C'52 R - Ireton, Iowa
- James E. Bonnstetter - Mavis Geurink - C'53 R - West Okobji, Iowa
- Lew Mays - Muriel Ver Hoeven - C'53 R - Washta, Iowa
- Eunice Van Gorp - Donald Van Der Weide - C'53 R - Don in service
- Audree Heemstra - A'52, Cn'54 - John Landegent - C'54 R - John in service
- Joan Minerva De Beer - A'52, C'54 - David Van Peursem R - Orange City, Iowa
- Russell Korver - A'46, C'49 - Shirley Mackie - C'52 R - Vermillion, South Dakota
- Corrine Den Hartog - C'53 - Carl Folkers R - Rock Rapids, Iowa
- John Boender - C'49 - Ruth Prais R - John in service as a chaplain
- Leona Riphagen - C'54 - Robert Schreur R - Alton, Iowa
- Darlene Doornink - C'53 - Gerald Van Roekel R - Sioux Center, Iowa
- Bertha Jean Soedsma - Cn'54 - Cornie De Jong R - Hull, Iowa
- Ingetta Koole - Cn'54 - Doyle Tutje R - Matlock, Iowa
- Helen Van Abbema - C'54 - Larry Peterson - C'53 R - Ashton, Iowa
- Ruth Grooters - C'54 - Warren Van Binsburgen R - Clarkfield, Minnesota
- Arlene Roos - C'54 - Charles Lubbers - Cn'55 R - Orange City, Iowa
- Joan Dekker - C'54 - James E. Hendrix R - South Holland, Illinois
- Eunice Post - C'41 - Douglas Beeg R - American Mission, Bahrein, Persian Gulf, Arabia
- Henrietta Geurink - A'50 C'52 - Stanley Slobe - Cn'43 R - Newton, Iowa

## BABIES

TERESA GALE to Lawrence A'49 - C'53 and Marthann Van Es Pennings - A'49 - C'51.  
PHILLIP JAY to Elmer A'54 and Mrs. Kannengieter.  
CAMILLA IONE to Laurence C'54 and Betty Kraai Korver Cn'54.  
RACHEL to Clarence and Lena Schiebout Vander Laan A'50.  
KEVIN ELLIOT to Harold A'48 - C'50 and Shirley Ramaker Korver C'51.  
KAREN SUE to Joe A'49 - C'50 and Jean Harmelink Muyskens C'50.  
CARLA FRANCINE to Carl A'46 - Cn'48 and Marlys Mouw Pennings A'44 - C'46.  
JAME ALLEN to Howard Cn'40 - A'33 and Mrs. Duven  
EDWARD BRYAN to Elmer and Edith Duven Ver Steeg Cn'44.  
JENNIFER to Merlyn Cn'38 and Gertrude Brink Kraai C'37.  
MELINDA KAY to Tim and Clarine Kooiker Kooima Cn'51.  
DARRELL WAYNE to Elmer and Esther De Wild Koedeman C'48.  
ROBERT DICK to Richard C'48 and Anna Heemstra Var, Zanten Cn'46.  
JEANE CLAIRE to Paul A'41 - C'43 and Vera Pennings Colenbrander A'41 - C'43.  
BARRY GUY to Verlyn and Mary De Haan Vermeer Cn'51.  
LANCE ALAN to Lorenz Cn'52 and Mrs. Mouw.  
THEA GAYE to Clayton An'44 - Cn'49 and Mrs. Korver.  
PAMELA JO to Lee A'53 - Cn'55 and Audrey Muilenburg Van Engelenhoven A'52 - C'54.  
PAUL DEAN to Dick Cn'39 and Mrs. Hulst.  
NORMAN GENE to Henry and Beth Muilenburg Haarsma. A'49.  
SUSAN DIANE to Franklin and Burlea Korver Long A'50 - C'52.  
GORDON SETH to Martin C'52 and Mrs. Dekkinga.  
ROBERT LYNN to Edward C'54 and Betty Vegter Vander Pol A'53 - Cn'55.  
JAMES ELLIOTT to James Cn'50 and Mrs. Aielts.  
ALLEN BART to Fred and Berniece Mouw Van Zyl Cn'51.  
VERLE DEAN to Don and Ella Mae Vander Wilt De Gooyer C'54.  
JAMES ALLEN to Bill and Lavonne De Jager Riphagen Cn'53.  
MARK to Rev. A. J. Van Lummel C'42 and Marjorie Brower Van Lummel C'43.

## THE ALUMNI OFFICE

is most anxious to serve our graduates and non-graduates with up-to-date information.

To do this, we must have your correct address.

When you have finished reading this Classic, will you kindly fill in the address blank below and return it to the Alumni Office, Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa?

Name -----

Address -----

City and State -----

NORTHWESTERN College and Academy is your school! To receive the blessings it offers, you must keep us informed as to your whereabouts, and the whereabouts of your close friends with whom we may have lost contact.

Sincere thanks for your help.

Rev. L. Nattress  
Alumni Office

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